



Wash. Chapter, American Association Masseurs & Masseuses

Editor: Ruth Williams

March, 1957

Kennewick, Wash.

FIVE STATE CONVENTION FOR FIFTY-SEVEN HELD IN FOOTHILLS OF HORSE HEAVEN

Horse Heaven Hills--what a name! When you first hear the name it gives you the feeling that you have been struck with a club, but you get over the shock and would not change the name if you could. These forbidding-looking hills, covered with sage brush, are seen from many of the south western towns and is a plateau about 30 miles wide and 75 miles long, and slopes toward the Columbia River on three sides. Between the groups of sage-brush the fine bunch-grass used to grow, which was so tall and luxuriant that thousands of horses lived on this table-land at no expense to their owners. A horse can go several days without water and can easily go twenty miles to water in one night, and here it could choose between the Columbia and the Yakima Rivers.

Because the bunch-grass grew so luxuriously, an early settler, James Gorden Kinney, said it was a perfect heaven for horses up there, and that is the way it got its name. Many things have happened since it first got its name, and settlers arrived. Wild animals have been killed, coyotes, sagehens, geese, rabbits, bobcats, even a few deer and bear, murder, and greed, a little child lost---all of these stories are told by the early yarn-spinner, old timers. More people came and began farming. Instead of raising cattle and horses, they experimented with wheat and rye. Gradually old ways gave way to new ones and today people no longer live in shacks; they have nice homes with bathrooms, electric lights, and all the conveniences of good oiled roads, and they don't have to live on jackrabbits and prairie chicken. The wild horses are gone, cattle and sheep have been crowded out. Wheat fields take their place. Each rancher now farms two to four thousand acres of land. The desert land in the foothills and slopes have been made to bloom like a rose with water from the Columbia and Yakima Rivers. As the years and seasons went by the country began to have prominence and importance, and the small towns have grown to the proportions of a young metropolis, the Tri-Cities, in the past 15 years. All of these wonders are here to greet the modern day visitor to our fair land.

CONVENTION PLANS

Plans are going forward to the convention to be held in Kennewick on June 7,8,9, 1957. Delegates will stay at the beautiful Black Angus Motel where there is room to accomodate our group. Meetings will be held in the spacious rooms of the new-new Kennewick Social Club. There is a snack bar and bowling alley in the same building that will be at our disposal if we choose to use them. Also the local TV station, KEPR, is in the same building.

Lunch Friday and Saturday, the banquet Saturday night, and breakfast Sunday morning will be served to us as a group in the club and

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SPOKANE CHAPTER
MINUTES OF MEETING
FEBRUARY 1, 1957

The monthly meeting of the Spokane Chapter of A.A.M.M. was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Donald M. Edwards, N. Monroe Street. Due to the snow and unforeseen circumstances, Mr. C.R. Soper, our President and Mr. R.R.A.B. Butt, our Secretary-Treasurer, were not present. Mr. Steve Mason, our Vice President, opened the meeting at 8:15 p.m. and the minutes of the last meeting were read by Mildred Churchill and approved as read. Minutes were again taken by Miss Churchill.

OLD BUSINESS: No treasurers report was given, due to Mr. Butts absence. Mrs Florence Taylor gave a report on the progress of arrangements for our coming card and/or bingo party to raise money for our treasury. Mrs. Taylor reported that she had obtained a rent free hall for the occasion and the date of the party would be Friday night March 29, and tickets would have to be sold by the members. Mr. Short made motion that, as chairman, Mrs. Taylor have the authority to go right ahead with the plans for this party. Seconded by Mr. Edwards and passed upon by all.

NEW BUSINESS: Motion was made by Mrs. Taylor to have our minutes sent in to the Washington Massage News and/or the Masseur. It was decided the minutes of January 4 to be sent to the Masseur and the minutes of February 1 meeting to the Washington Massage News. Motion seconded by Mr. Eitreim. Mr. Edwards made a motion that our state Secretary, Mr. Eitreim, write to Mr. Arthur Nelson to inquire about our members receiving letter-head stationary upon payment of dues as we understand has been done in the state of Oregon. Motion was seconded by Mr. Short and passed unanimously. Mr. Pete Eitreim encouraged us as individual members to write and send in articles to the Masseur and Washington Massage News. He then asked if we were in favor of contributing to the support of a lobbyist to protect us from being excluded and/or included in a bill which we do not want that would prevent us from practicing massage, if the lobbyist can be had for a reasonable fee. Motion was made by Mr. Eitreim and seconded by Mr. Edwards that we raise a fund for protective legislation. Mr. Eitreim also proposed that we consider the building up of a defense fund for members who may get into trouble through no fault of their own. It was decided that this is a matter that should be brought up at the State Convention. Mr. Eitreim also told us of plans Mr. John Murray has for building up A.A.M.M. Membership and asked us for ideas of ways to accomplish this purpose. Discussion followed.

Six members and one honorary, Dr. Jennie Cotner, were present and all of us enjoyed and participated in an unusually lively meeting. Motion was made by Miss Churchill that the meeting be adjourned at 10:30 p.m. and was seconded by Mr. Short. Refreshments were served by Mr. Edwards and his daughter, with the help of Dr. Cotner. Our next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs Taylor, N. 1226 Summit Blvd., March 1, 1957

Mildred F. Churchill

FIVE STATE CONVENTION FOR FIFTY-SEVEN,

HELD IN FOOTHILLS OF HORSE HEAVEN.

LET'S FACE IT
B Y John A. Murray R.M.

Our Washington chapter of the A.A.M.M. has apparently reached a point of stagnation, our membership is not increasing as it should, we enroll two or three members a year and about that same number drop out. What is wrong?

I was told by one of our members recently, that it was a matter of leadership. If our leadership was as it should be, we would go places, we would put over our massage bill, and obtain the desired legislation and enroll all the legitimate massage technicians, in the state, in spite of the opposition.

That sounds good, but I am not that good, as a leader. I am no high powered, strongarm, high pressure dealer. I can't go about selling anything the majority don't want. At our state convention in June, we decided to pass up our legislative program, for this year. Then it was sort of revived by the offer of a political candidate, who offered free advise and help to put our bill over. He was defeated, so in view of the fact that 95% of the membership, were absolutely against legislation, 4% was luke warm, and 1% was hot, in favor. It was dropped for the time being, with the decision to try and increase our membership by 100% thereby strengthen our association, financially, as well as voting power.

Now in regard to prospective members, I checked over the classified of the Seattle telephone directory, the information there was shocking. This is what I found;

A.A.M.M. Members, listed in directory---9

Non-Members, listed under Massage in directory---21

Non-Members, listed under "Health Service and not listed under massage---10

Non-Members, listed under Physical Therapy, who are not registered Physical therapists or belonging to Physical Therapy Ass'n.

which makes a total of approximately 40 non-members, 9 A.A.M.M. members With an additional ten or fifteen "assage technicians not listed in classified section, some active in massage work, some part time and some graduated and licenced who are not practicing at all.

One of the best Masseurs I have ever seen in action, graduate and licensed, is now employed in Seattle Fire Department, two other Masseurs, graduate and licensed, and for above average as Masseurs go, one is a shipping clerk at Sears Robuck, the other is a member of a dance band. Another, graduate in physical education, and a graduate and licensed Masseur is employed in Police Department. I know a Masseuse (non-member) who does not advertise, but has all she can do from Doctors reference. Another Masseuse (non-member) works in a T.B. Sanitarium.

I have approached many of these, if not all of them, to consider joining our association, and have met with some of the poorest excuses. Such as "I was a member once, everything was quarling and shouting", "I will never join the A.A.M.M. as long as so-and-so is a member", or "I am buying a new car---trading in last years model, so I can't afford it." Another "I am spending \$2,000.00 on remodeling my home, so I can't afford it." Etc.,etc.,etc.

No-one asked me to join, I felt the need for such an association as we have, and asked to join. I am not sorry I did, but I would like to see it grow, and have better attendance at our meetings.

It seems the situation, "Down Oregon way", is similar to our own, except we have a faithful few, while they have a faithful two.

The only solution I can see is for each of us to try and recruit the technicians in our immediate midst. It will take personal interview and much diplomacy to do the trick. If we were successful in getting one new member, it would be progress. Let's hear some views on the subject.

Fraternally,

John A. Murray R.M.
Washington State President

Friday supper will be served around the swimming pool at the Black Angus after a swimming party. Those who do not wish to swim can rest and relax at the tables and under the awning around the pool. More of the details will be in this paper from month to month.

All ballots received by your editor have been in favor of inviting California and Utah Chapters to attend our convention. Copies of this issue are being sent to them.

California and Utah-----

Will you consider this as a formal invitation to meet with us on June 7-8-9 at Kennewick, Washington?

It will be a grand thing!! A five state convention.

See you in June,
Ruth Williams R.M.

ALONG THE WAY

The English essayist and divine of the 19th century, Sydney Smith, had this to say about initiative and courage: "A great deal of talent is lost in the world for want of a little courage. Every day sends to their graves obscure men whom timidity prevented from making a first effort; who if they could have been induced to begin, would, in all probability, have gone great lengths in the career of fame. The fact is, that to do anything in the world worth doing, we must not stand back shivering and thinking of the cold danger, but we must jump in and scramble through as well as we can. It will not do to be perpetually calculating risks and adjusting nice chances. A man waits, and doubts, and consults his brother, and his particular friends, till one day he finds that he is sixty years old, and that he has lost so much time in consulting relatives that he has no time to follow their advice."

Dear friend Ruth,

Sorry you have had so much tooth trouble. I am reluctantly giving up one or two teeth at a time. I lost 2 more just before Christmas, one of them in a place where it shows when I grin. Very amusing to my wife. The most amusing and most ridiculous sight I have ever seen was two toothless men laughing at each other. I still laugh when I think about it.

Pete Eitreim